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Headline: Singaporean based in Wales given prestigious British title for community work

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SINGAPORE - A Singaporean woman based in Wales has been conferred a prestigious British title for her outstanding community work.

Mrs Shereen Aziz-Williams, 35, was recently made an honorary Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE).

Mrs Williams, who moved to Wales in 2005, has been a prominent speaker on subjects ranging from faith and race to cohesion and extremism, and is passionate about tackling issues such as violence against women.

The accountancy graduate from the Singapore Management University currently works as a regional community cohesion coordinator in Newport and Monmouthshire (East Gwent) in Wales.

As part of her role working for the local government, she has overseen key projects including the relocation of former British Army translators from Afghanistan. She is now lead officer for the resettlement of Syrian Refugees in East Gwent.

Mrs Williams also works with the Henna Foundation, a charity aimed at strengthening families within the Muslim community, and which supports women who have been the victims of honour-based violence and forced marriages.

She is married to a Welshman with whom she has two sons and a 16-year-old stepdaughter.

Congratulating Mrs Williams, The Singapore High Commission in London said on its Facebook page on July 2: "We are proud of Singaporeans who contribute to their local communities no matter where they are, and fly our flag high."

Other notable personalities who have been made an honorary MBE include singer-songwriter Ed Sheeran, and former Manchester United goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel, who is Danish.

According to the UK government's website, the MBE is awarded for an outstanding achievement or service to the community, which will have had a long-term, significant impact and stands out as an example to others.